

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 186434

EXDIS FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT PARIS 23136 ACTION SECSTATE INFO KINSHASA
ADDIS ABABA MOGADISCIO BRUSSELS JUL 22.

QUOTE: S E C R E T PARIS 23136

EXDIS

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PEPR, FR, US, XA

SUBJECT: UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM'S MEETING WITH
ELYSEE AFRICAN ADVISOR

REF: LONDON 11490 NOTAL

1. UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM MET WITH ELYSEE AFRICAN
ADVISOR RENE JOURNIAC AFTERNOON JULY 21 AT LATTER'S
REQUEST. JOURNIAC NOTED WITH PARTICULAR INTEREST
NEWSOM'S ACCOUNT OF HIS DISCUSSION OF AFRCAN MATTERS

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WITH SAUDI OFFICIALS IN JIDDA. THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY
JOURNIAC IN THE BROAD-RANGING DISCUSSION WERE LARGELY
THOSE HE EXPOUNDED IN A JULY 18 MEETING WITH ASSISTANT
SECRETARY MOOSE (REFTEL). OTHER ITEMS OF POSSIBLE
INTEREST REPORTED HERE. (COMMENTS ON MAURITANIA/SAHARA
BY SEPTTEL.)

2. ERITREA. JOURNIAC ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE GOF DOES MAINTAIN "VERY DISCREET" CONTACT WITH THE VARIOUS ERITREAN LIBERATION GROUPS. HE BELIEVES THAT THE LARGEST AND MOST EFFECTIVE OF THESE, THE EPLF, IS IN THE PROCESS OF GETTING THE UPPER HAND OVER THE OTHER GROUPS AND WILL EVENTUALLY HAVE EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF ERITREA. THE ETHIOPIANS CANNOT BEAT THEM MILITARILY WITHOUT SOVIET AND CUBAN HELP. SINCE THIS SEEMS UNLIKELY, THERE WILL EVENTUALLY BE A POLITICAL SOLUTION IN WHICH THE EPLF PLAYS A KEY POSITION. COMMUNIST PARTIES IN BOTH ITALY AND FRANCE ARE NOW IN CONTACT WITH THE EPLF AND THIS CONTACT COULD FACILITATE THE SOVIETS AT

SOME TIME ESTABLISHING A STRONG POSITION IN ERITREA. THE GOF DOES NOT BELIEVE IT IS IN THE WESTERN INTEREST TO LEAVE THE WAY COMPLETELY OPEN FOR THE SOVIETS AND WILL THUS CONTINUE TO TALK WITH THE EPLF.

3. ZAIRE. JOURNIAC SAID THAT THE US AND FRANCE SHOULD DO WHAT THEY CAN TO GET THE NEEDED FOREIGN EXPERTS IN PLACE IN ZAIRE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THEY ARE NECESSARY TO GET THE ZAIRE ECONOMY GOING WHICH IS IN TURN VITAL TO STABILITY IN ZAIRE. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ABOUT FOREIGN WORKERS AT THE SHABA MINES, JOURNIAC SAID THAT HE HAD RECENTLY MET WITH THE HEAD OF GECAMINES
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WHO HAD TOLD HIM THAT DECISIONS CONCERNING THE EXPATRIATES WOULD BE MADE SHORTLY, POSSIBLY WITHIN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS. NOTICES WOULD GO TO THOSE WHOSE RETURN TO ZAIRE IS DESIRED AS WELL AS TO THOSE WHOSE EMPLOYMENT IS BEING TERMINATED. NEW EXPATRIATE WORKERS WILL BE FOUND TO REPLACE THOSE FIRED AND THE TOTAL NUMBER WILL REMAIN AS IT WAS BEFORE SHABA.
HARTMAN

UNQUOTE VANCE

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